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<u>C / 18/</u> Da

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re App. of:

Atty Ref. No.:

DeAddio et al.

Examiner: D. Felten

Title:

Object Oriented System for Managing Complex Financial Serial No.: 09/127,341

Instruments

Filed:

July 31, 1998 11021.0001

Art Unit: 3624

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**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED MAY 18, 2004** 

**GROUP 3600** 

To:

Mail Stop AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant responds as follows to the Office Action mailed May 18, 2004.

Claims 21-33 are in the application. In the amendment submitted on March 2, 2004 (herein referred to as the "March 2, 2004 Amendment"), applicant requested that claim 24 be cancelled without prejudice. Accordingly the present submission addresses the other remaining claims, i.e., claims 21-23 and 25-33.

In the most recent action, the Examiner stated that the March 2, 2004 Amendment was not fully responsive to the prior action (mailed Dec. 2, 2003), because it failed to point out specific distinctions believed to render the added new claims, specifically claim 23, patentable over the applied references.

Applicant respectfully points out that that claim 23 was in fact specifically addressed at page 12, line 28 of the March 2, 2004 Amendment, which stated as follows:

"Applicant addresses claim . . . 23 [and other enumerated claims] insofar as to note that as dependent claims they are each narrower than the base claim from which they depend (claim 21) and should be deemed patentable if their ultimate parent is patentable. MPEP 608.01(n)."

All claims in the application ultimately depend from claim 21, and incorporate all of the limitations of claim 21. Applicant argued at length in the March 2, 2004 Amendment that the limitations of claim 21 as amended distinguish over the applied references.

Applicant of course asserts that each dependent claim has additional features that further distinguishes each such claim from the prior art. However, for purposes of the present record, Applicant relies on the subject matter that distinguishes claim 21 over the applied references, as argued in the March 2, 2004 Amendment, as also distinguishing the dependent claims, i.e., claims 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33, over the applied references.

## CONCLUSION

Applicant requests that the amendment filed March 2, 2004 be considered in light of the foregoing, and earnestly solicits allowance of the application. Should matters remain which the Examiner believes could be resolved in a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to telephone the applicant's undersigned attorney, at (212) 837-6404.

Dated: May 28, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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